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and this is gained fastest through books. The patients must not be separated from the usual things of life in a hospital but the surroundings should be made up of all the happy and beautiful things with which they are usually familiar. The use made of books is not for their educational value but therapeutic value.

Anna C. Jammé's paper on DEVELOPMENT OF LIBRARIES IN SCHOOLS OF NURSING THROUGH EXISTING STATE AND COUNTY AGENCIES was read by Jean E. Graffen, Chief of the Periodical Department, Public Library, Philadelphia.

Kathleen Jones, formerly librarian of the McLean Hospital, Waverly, Massachusetts, now General Secretary of the Massachusetts Commission, spoke on the Library Commission's responsibility to state and county hospitals. She said the library com-

mission would have to get behind the hospital work. One way is to support legislation for this work. Most hospitals have books but the books are not selected with care. Friendly relations must be secured with the state hospital officials. Prisoners should be allowed to come to the library to select their books and to use it as a reading room.

The session then adjourned.

A second session was held as a joint meeting with the American Library association, Saturday morning June 25. (See p. 161.)

The officers for 1921 are: President, Wm. R. Watson; first vice-president, Wm. J. Hamilton; second vice-president, Mary B. Palmer; secretary and treasurer, Anna May Price.

ANNA MAY PRICE,
Secretary.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE LIBRARIES

The 24th Annual Meeting of the National Association of State Libraries was held at Swampscott, Massachusetts, June 21-24, 1921.

First Session

The first session was called to order by the president, Edward H. Redstone, librarian, Massachusetts State Library, who gave an address of welcome.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

It is my pleasant duty to welcome you to Swampscott, Massachusetts. In the past an address of welcome has customarily been made by some one outside of the association, who has devoted his or her energies to extolling the whole average of brains and beauty extended by this body. I confess to a strong personal conviction on this subject but I feel that it would hardly become a member to enlarge upon it.

In fact, though our feelings of welcome are warm, my words must be few for I am unwilling to detain you from the program that is to follow. I wish simply to express the great and sincere pleasure it

gives to us of Massachusetts to welcome you to our state.

The pride of Bostonians in their native city has almost become proverbial; you have doubtless heard countless witticisms on the subject perpetrated at our expense. Imagine for yourselves then, the delight we feel in initiating our best friends from every corner of the land into this paradise, and if you find in any respect that it falls below our heavenly ideal, please be magnanimous, I beg you, conceal the fact as best you can and spare our images.

Parkman, writing of a period a century and a half ago, in referring to our cold and disagreeable temperament, says "Then as now, New England was best known to her neighbors by her worst side." May this be a ray of comfort for you, therefore, in the hope that on closer acquaintance you may find us not quite as bad as we seem. The last conference in this vicinity was at Magnolia, a few miles from here, in 1902. Since that time the association has met in various parts of the country, where it has enjoyed a generous and hearty welcome, but nowhere, I assure you, and I speak

for Swampscott, and I speak for Massachusetts, is there in the hearts of librarians and people toward you and this association, a truer loyalty, a juster pride, or a more whole-hearted pleasure in your presence than here in the old Bay State. We bid you cordial welcome.

Second Session

The second session was held in conjunction with the second group meeting of the Special Libraries Association, Wednesday afternoon, June 22. Herbert O. Brigham, gave the address.

INFORMATION SERVICES

By HERBERT O. BRIGHAM, *State Librarian, Rhode Island*

There are in this country over seventy-five organizations which render a research service for compensation. Some of these concerns perform this service by preparing special data upon the request of a client, others by publishing annual volumes and supplementing these volumes by monthly, weekly and daily reports.

Most of the services are of recent origin. Only nine of the entire number antedate this century and there is a long gap from the credit concerns, founded before 1850, to the two corporations organized in 1878 and 1879, then another long gap to the five services established during the last decade of the 19th century.

I have made an attempt to divide the various services into groups, and while no two persons would agree regarding this grouping, it serves the purpose of placing under one head correlated activities.

Many of these well-known names, such as Bradstreet or Dun, in common usage are often coupled, but other concerns that are changing their form of research defy classification. In addition many of the larger organizations render a wide variety of services and in order to consider these institutions by themselves I have made two groupings: General Research and Specific Research. In the latter group I have selected the following sub-divisions: 1. Credit Rating; 2. Digests of Business;

3. Economic Research; 4. Industry; 5. Investments; 6. Legislation and Taxation; 7. Research.

General Research

Under the head of General Research I have placed seven of the leading concerns of the country, each of which covers a wide range of information on several topics, as for example, investment, labor, building and foreign trade, and I have grouped these companies in the order of formation.

Babson's Statistical Organization. One of the outstanding figures in the field of commercial research is that of Roger W. Babson. His life story has been told in a picturesque manner in the *American Magazine* for February, 1920, but the real test of his work is the institution at Wellesley Hills which has become a living monument to one of the keenest statisticians in the country.

Forced by illness to live away from the city, Mr. Babson sought the highlands near Boston and while fighting disease conceived the idea of preparing analyses for bankers. From this small beginning, he has built up the well-known service of the Babson organization and from his quarters outside the marts of business has developed an organization which sweeps the country for facts concerning industry.

Space will not permit further discussion of the man, but the Babson reports cover a wide range. Among the publications may be noted a semi-monthly bulletin on industry; a labor forecast; monthly publications entitled *Advice to Buyers* and *Advice to Sellers*; an investment bulletin; a speculative bulletin for purchasers of securities and a key publication called *Weekly Barometer Letter*, which includes the Compositplot of American Business Conditions. There is also maintained an advisory service which renders special reports on labor and production problems. In addition, the organization publishes a desk sheet which groups the basic barometers of business under twelve main heads, and various maps showing trade conditions.

To secure suitable people for this special type of work, there has been organized the Babson Institute which conducts courses in economics, finance, business methods, library methods, printing, advertising and other subjects. The library plays an important part in connection with the organization and makes a strong contribution to the educational work. The employes of the organization and students of the institute are known as co-operators and become identified with the corporation.

The service is based upon the compilation of facts gathered from accurate sources and compiled with the principle that the element of chance may be removed by presenting clear-cut facts and figures.

Corporation Trust Company. One of the older concerns engaged in information services is the Corporation Trust Company which, while primarily "a company for lawyers," maintains several services which keep track of legislation and taxes. Originally created to assist attorneys in the organization of corporations, it has from time to time developed various departments and services. The subject matter of this paper does not permit the discussion of its departments devoted to corporations, trusts and transfer, but should consider the departments devoted to legislation and taxation. The company maintains several services relating to the Federal Income Tax and the Federal War Tax, a notification department which informs attorneys concerning the time to file corporation reports and to pay state taxes, and, in addition, a special service for the New York State Income Tax and another service for the reporting of official orders and rulings of the Federal Trade Commissions. As part of its functions it has a Congressional legislative service which furnishes information concerning legislative action by daily reports. Another service reports the Federal Reserve Act and official rulings thereon.

The company issues numerous publications, including the *Corporation Journal*, appearing ten times a year. The company

has a long record of achievement and does not feature the individual, but makes the Corporation Trust Co. the outstanding element.

Standard Statistics Company. One of the largest organizations of its kind in America is the Standard Statistics Co. which was organized in 1906 to distribute accurate investment information. The company maintains a comprehensive trade service, consisting of a daily survey and forecast, including the general business field and the various key industries; a weekly corporation and news digest relating to finance, legislation, court decisions, labor and industry; a weekly foreign affairs section which is an interpretive digest of foreign economic conditions, and a monthly statistical bulletin containing figures and graphs of finance and business conditions. The company also furnishes a corporation card service which in succinct form presents the essential facts concerning a corporation; a bond card service of similar scope; a special card service for Canadian securities; a market service for inactive, unlisted and local securities; a daily corporation news service and special services relating to dividends, stock market securities, sinking funds and bonds. Other features are a weekly dividend calendar, a weekly market review, and special reviews and prospectuses for corporations. The concern also issues an income tax manual, a loose-leaf income tax service and a list relating to the status of bonds in relation to taxes.

This brief summary gives a small conception of the Standard Statistics organization. Their sales manager in correspondence states: "We have always stood for the institution idea rather than exploiting individuals or personnel," and even the letterhead does not contain the name of an individual.

Brookmire Economic Service. A newer service which has recently entered into competition with the older concerns is the Brookmire Economic Service.

Fourteen years ago J. H. Brookmire of St. Louis developed a barometric chart

and began research work which culminated five years later in the organization of the Brookmire Service. In 1915 Mr. Brookmire severed his connection with the service and the organization removed to New York City with William H. Walker as president.

The Brookmire Service is similar in scope to the Babson Service. It issues a comprehensive set of publications. Among the imprints are a weekly periodical entitled *The Forecaster*, which discusses in the four issues of the month either financial, manufacturing, business or transportation conditions; a semi-monthly trade bulletin in two sections, one covering commodity conditions and the other, sales and credit; a monthly financial bulletin; an investment opportunity bulletin issued monthly; a bi-weekly analyst which shows the intrinsic merit of securities and notes market policy; a monthly building bulletin; and a monthly sales and credit map. All these publications are supplemented by two barometer charts, one covering industrial stocks and commodity prices, the other, bonds and railroad stocks, and a twelve-month record of the New York security market, entitled *The Brookmire Trend Chart*.

Alexander Hamilton Institute. As part of the business courses conducted by the Alexander Hamilton Institute there has been established a Business Conditions Service which supplies the subscribers to the course with specific information on current business events. Four monthly bulletins are issued in weekly rotation. The bulletins cover business conditions, investment conditions, business progress and trade. In addition, modern business reports are prepared by the research and editorial division and the organization also extends the use of this service to non-subscribers.

Prentice-Hall, Inc. Prentice-Hall, Inc., which came into existence in 1913, was primarily started to publish business literature. Its first service was the Federal Tax Service which has expanded from a bound volume to loose-leaf form and, as

the concern expresses it, "puts taxes on a business basis." The company also issues a special service for inheritance taxes. It covers the inheritance tax law of every state and of the Federal government with suitable references to court decisions and regulations.

A new department inaugurated by the company, known as the Business Information Service, is similar in type to the Business Digest, with the addition of certain interesting features. Business books are reviewed and digested and, in addition, any book digested is loaned to subscribers to the service and may be kept for a period of ten days, after which it may be returned or purchased at list price. The information service covers eight hundred publications, including business magazines, trade journals and house organs. If a subscriber desires exhaustive information on a special subject, the services of the Research Department are at his disposal. It also offers the larger business organizations what is termed a "double service" whereby the department heads are supplied with special binders containing data concerning their particular department. Prentice-Hall also publishes a number of business books and maintains an organization of over one hundred people. The service is headed by Dr. Charles W. Gerstenberg, head of the Finance Department of New York University, and the president of the organization is Richard P. Ettinger, Asst. Professor of Finance of New York University.

Commerce Clearing House. A new company in the field of general research is the Commerce Clearing House which was established in 1917 by William Kix Miller, a Chicago attorney. Originally planned to extend tax assistance to banking houses, the organization has undertaken more comprehensive duties and, in addition to an elaborate tax service consisting of publications, tax guides, a Federal Tax bulletin service, a Federal Tax return consultation service, and a tax law training course, it continues to render special service to banks, such as the publication of

syndicated pamphlets and booklets, including a business barometer issued as a monthly bulletin. In 1921 the organization began the issuance of a current business survey prepared by its Research Department, accompanied by a seven-volume set, entitled *Modern business fundamentals*, which is given as part of the service. The Clearing House also issues an *Income and war tax guide* and its Legal Department analyzes corporation accounts for tax purposes. The organization is divided into four departments, headed by the firm of KixMiller and Baar as counsel. While the title Commerce Clearing House would imply a wide range of activity, the strength of the organization is largely placed in taxation and special bank services.

Specific Research

In this group I have placed the concerns that are so organized that they confine themselves to a definite line of research or service. As time passes, many of the organizations are changing their formation and adding services or abandoning services which do not pay. I have grouped the seven sub-divisions alphabetically, but have arranged the concerns thereunder in chronological order. Oddly enough, this arrangement places at the forefront of the organizations devoted to specific research, two of the oldest concerns in the country.

1. Credit Rating

The outstanding names in the field of commerce are the mercantile agencies of Dun and Bradstreet. When concerns have rendered reliable service for upwards of seventy years, they have achieved a reputation and good will that are enviable. Dun and Bradstreet have been the signets for accurate information regarding business standing. Their very strength has prevented competition from less worthy concerns and both come within the field of information services.

Dun's Mercantile Agency. The panic of 1837 was the indirect cause of the formation of Dun's Mercantile Agency. The failure of the firm with which Lewis Tap-

pan was connected caused Mr. Tappan to seek a more reliable method of securing information regarding the financial resources of those asking for credit than was then available, and on June 1, 1841, Mr. Tappan established in New York City a mercantile agency "for the protection and promotion of trade," the first institution of its kind in the world. Later Benjamin Douglas became identified with the firm and soon Lewis Tappan retired in favor of his brother, Arthur Tappan. In 1854 Robert Graham Dun became a partner. Mr. Douglas sold out his entire interest to Mr. Dun, and in 1864 the name became "R. G. Dun & Co." Branches were established in the principal cities and in 1921 Dun's Agency maintains two hundred and twenty-three branches in various trade centers throughout the world.

Space will not permit a description of the elaborate system which enables the firm to ascertain the credit standing of anyone in the country. Credit is one of the essential factors of modern trade and the agency plays a strong part in stabilizing business. Undoubtedly organizations of this type decrease the percentage of failures and prevent fraud. In addition to the bulky reference book which places a rating upon concerns throughout the country, special reports can be obtained by subscribers upon application.

Bradstreet Company. A concern with an equally honorable record is that of the Bradstreet Company. Founded in 1849 by J. M. Bradstreet, it also has stood the test of time and has maintained a system of investigation, reporting and credit rating which stands for integrity and business honesty. Bradstreet has made a scientific investigation of the statistics of failures. The company publishes a rating book with statements concerning over two million names of persons and, in addition, a gazetteer section containing a compendium of data concerning seventy-eight thousand places. Bradstreet's gives a mercantile report to subscribers which shows at a glimpse the character of the person, firm or corporation and renders an information

service of the highest value. Both Dun and Bradstreet's derive an income solely from the legitimate business of investigation of credit and the dissemination of reports. Neither have undertaken any activities which extend beyond this function.

2. *Digests of Business*

The literature of business has grown to such an extent that the reader is overwhelmed with the mass of material. For the convenience of the man in the world of industry and for the aid of the librarian, there have been established business digests which pass in swift review the literature of the industrial world. Another group has a bibliographic function and analyzes reports and documents. As business touches so closely the field of public affairs, some of these publications have included the broader term and place business within the realm of public affairs. In this group I have noted in order of formation the Public Affairs Information Service, the Business Digest and the Business Data Bureau. Prentice-Hall, Inc., also publishing a digest, has been considered under General Research.

Public Affairs Information Service. Twelve years ago the special librarians achieved an organization and soon the need of securing accurate bibliographic information for certain fugitive material caused an informal gathering at a library conference and the selection of John A. Lapp, then editor of *Special Libraries*, for the task of compiling the data. At first the material was mimeographed, then it was issued in printed form and later was placed in the hands of the H. W. Wilson Co. and for the past seven years has been conducted by that organization.

It is a purely co-operative undertaking and the general conduct of the service is in charge of a publication committee elected by the co-operators. Messrs. Williamson, Godard, Lapp, Hicks and Wheeler are all familiar to you and the caliber of the committee indicates the close affiliation with the librarians. Mr. Williamson as chief has at his command the resources

of the New York Public Library and the P. A. I. S. is the gainer thereby, as the publications flowing into the public library are garnered and gleaned for the rich material worthy of inclusion in the bulletin.

A weekly bulletin is issued, a bi-monthly cumulation and an annual volume. The treatment is comprehensive and covers the entire field of public affairs; fugitive pamphlets are noted; books and important features in newspapers are analyzed; and unpublished and typewritten material recorded.

Bibliographical data are prepared by the co-operators under usual routine, sent to the service as manuscript, duly listed and upon request of members the service furnishes typewritten copies at cost. The Research Department is a feature of the organization and membership in the P. A. I. S. gives the co-operator the valuable facilities available in New York City.

An important feature of this service is the furnishing of photostat copies of material listed in the bulletins. The service also makes bibliographical, statistical and general researches and digests, utilizing experienced bibliographers and research workers.

The P. A. I. S. is a unique undertaking. Its chief strength lies in its function as a clearing house of bibliographic activities. It would well pay an investigator to write to the P. A. I. S. before undertaking a research in order to ascertain what has been previously accomplished on the subject.

One cannot resist treating the P. A. I. S. in a friendly vein because it is near to the hearts of the librarians.

Business Digest Service. The Business Digest is an expansion of a periodical into a service. Originally established as *Information* in the year 1915 by the R. R. Bowker Co. under the editorship of Fremont Rider, it had its initial conception in the *Index to Dates*, published at first as a part of the *American Library Annual*. In 1916 the publication had passed into the hands of new owners, but with the same editorial directorship. In 1917 it changed its title to the *Business Digest* and in that form

has been familiar to librarians for several years. In September, 1920, the *Business Digest* was entitled *Business Digest Service* and was divided into sections. These sections have been expanded from time to time and at present are grouped as follows: Accounting and office methods; advertising and sales promotion; banking and investment; executive management; foreign trade; manufacturing; and store management. Each section is printed on different colored paper and has appended thereto a special supplement called the *Business Outlook*.

The service examines over one hundred and twenty trade and business publications and issues in total three hundred and ninety numbers of the *Digest Service*, including the weekly issues, seventy-two monthly cumulative issues and six annual bound volumes.

Business Data Bureau. Indianapolis is the home of the Business Data Bureau with the sub-title National Clearing House of Business Information. The organization, established in 1917, publishes a weekly periodical entitled *Business Data Weekly Review*. This publication analyzes business magazines and the leading trade journals. Subscribers also receive a quarterly cumulation of the digests that have appeared during each quarter and a research privilege is also extended to clients.

In concluding the subject of digests, we should include under this head the various bibliographies of the H. W. Wilson Co. The service rendered by this concern is so familiar to librarians that a statement regarding the various publications is almost unnecessary. Yet, the bibliographic undertakings of this company should not pass unnoticed as they are truly a part of Information Services in the broadest sense.

3. Economic Research

In addition to the large concerns, such as the Babson Statistical Organization, the Brookmire Economic Service and the Standard Statistics Co., there are several

institutions and concerns which are engaged in economic research.

Harvard University, Committee on Economic Research Statistical Service. In 1917 the university appointed a committee, headed by Prof. Charles J. Bullock, to conduct investigations of various problems relating to current business affairs. As a result of its investigations, the committee decided to offer to business men for the year 1919 a forecasting service, based on certain new methods of statistical analysis. The service met with warm support from leading business men and is now publishing the following series: An index of business conditions, issued semi-monthly; also advance letters giving the earliest possible notice of the movement of the index; a monthly review; special supplements printed several times a year presenting economic investigations of special interest; and a quarterly summary of world statistics. The service has been especially fortunate in its accurate forecasting of commodity price movements, and under the editorship of Prof. Warren N. Persons, has developed an unusually valuable business publication which bears the stamp of the eminent university.

Bankers Economic Service. The Bankers Economic Service publishes a *Weekly Forecast* similar in type to publications issued by the various banks. In addition, the service issues bi-weekly charts and graphs, monthly analyses and quarterly statistical compilations. The service is in charge of H. F. Rawll, distributor, but I am unable to learn the history and development of the organization.

International Statistical Service. F. H. Kenney, formerly editor of the *World Almanac*, has established the International Statistical Service, and offers the facilities of his organization for the purpose of furnishing data upon commerce, finance, labor and production, and, in addition, undertakes research and prepares special reports. I have no further information regarding the service.

4. Industry

I have grouped under Industry organizations covering a broad field of activities. The subdivision includes concerns interested in building reports, exporting, sales, industrial relations, marketing territories, purchasing and traffic.

F. W. Dodge Company. This organization, established in 1892 by Frederick W. Dodge, was the outcome of an undertaking by six Boston contractors to employ a man to gather news about proposed new buildings. Mr. Dodge agreed to obtain clients and undertook the task. From this small beginning the Dodge Service has grown into a nationally known institution which extends from the Atlantic seaboard to the Mississippi Valley. The company publishes a daily report on building and engineering operations, compiles a monthly record of construction activities, conducts a special inquiry service for subscribers and is the leading American authority on building records. The corporation also prints *The American Contractor*, *The Architectural Record*, *The Real Estate Record and Guide* and *Sweet's Catalog*.

MacLean Building Reports, Ltd. An organization which renders a building report service for the Dominion of Canada was organized by Hugh C. MacLean in 1911. The moving spirit in the organization is the general manager, A. R. Whittemore, who has been with the concern since its formation. The corporation issues a monthly building review and a system of follow-up reports, beginning with an advance information report, followed by second, third and fourth reports as data concerning certain new construction come to hand. These reports may continue until construction is actually begun and all sub-contracts awarded. They are sent out in multigraph form and supplemented in the manner stated. The MacLean organization also keeps closely in touch with construction problems by the issuance of nine trade publications.

American Export Manufacturers' Association. The development of the American export market caused the creation in 1911

of this export association which is headed by William C. Redfield, formerly Secretary of Commerce, and has among its directors prominent American manufacturers.

The association publishes a weekly bulletin, maintains a foreign credit service; a patent and trade mark bureau; and a translation bureau.

Contact with foreign buyers is secured by cards of introduction which accredit the buyer to the New York office of the association. These cards are countersigned by the American Consul and are presented to the association when the buyer reaches the country.

The organization maintains a New York and a Washington office and affords a general advisory service to all its members.

United States Corporation Company. The United States Corporation Co., established in 1911, maintains a service for lawyers. It issues a semi-monthly report service and prepares a corporation manual. The corporation has an extensive organization with twelve branch offices.

Architectural Service Bureau. This organization was started in April, 1915, under the name of the Architectural Service Corporation and in June, 1921, assumed its present title under the exclusive control of P. H. Wood of Philadelphia. The concern has two groups of clients: manufacturers of building materials and specialties; and secondly, actual engineers and builders. For the first class the corporation prepares service sheets which are in broadside and contain both drawings and specification. For the second class the services are issued in standardized form, and newly revised sheets, properly indexed, are sent out at quarterly intervals. An engineer or architect would, therefore, eventually build up a cumulative reference collection of these various service sheets.

Dartnell Corporation. A service organized in 1915 and devoted to sales management is conducted by the Dartnell Corporation of Chicago. The concern issues a weekly news bulletin for salesmen, a fort-

nightly confidential service letter for sales managers, a monthly issue of the *Dartnell Sales Index*, and a monthly report on some special investigation relating to salesmanship. The corporation is headed by J. C. Aspley, president, and M. D. Aspley, vice-president and secretary.

National Industrial Conference Board. Thirty national organizations identified with industry organized in May, 1916, the National Industrial Conference Board. One of the fundamental purposes of the board was to provide a bureau of scientific research and a clearing house of information, and with this intent the National Industrial Conference Board established a research department which has compiled over fifty research and special reports. The board, through these reports, keeps in contact with industrial movements and labor problems.

A weekly publication, entitled *The Industrial News Survey*, digests industrial news as reported in reliable papers and there are in addition an annual book review, special leaflets and monographs. A weekly service letter is issued by the board exclusively for its members.

The board maintains an industrial information service which renders assistance to employers in the solution of industrial questions. The organization, through its affiliations, reaches fifty thousand manufacturing concerns employing over seven million men and women.

Jewelers' Research Bureau was established in 1917 as an adjunct of the American National Retail Jewelers' Association. Its purpose is to secure information relating to the cost of doing business. Standard accounting terms have been adopted and a manual of operating accounts for retail jewelers has been prepared. A contract has been made with the Harvard Bureau of Business Research for the preparation of bulletins on the subject of jewelry.

Co-operative Data Exchange. The H. P. Gould Co., publishers of the efficiency magazine *100%*, established in 1917 the Co-operative Data Exchange as an expan-

sion of the service rendered by the magazine. It is also called the Gould Report Information Service and was organized by this company to investigate, compile and analyze selling data regarding equipment, combining industrial engineering and cost accounting practice. Reports are made by investigators and these reports are afterwards reprinted in pamphlet form for use by salesmen.

Pacific Coast Bureau of Employment Research. This organization, established in 1919 and located at San Francisco, conducts a service relating entirely to personnel and management. The first publication was entitled *Employment Problems* and was later replaced with information service bulletins. In 1921, a publication entitled *Personnel Club Exchange* was created which became the organ of the bureau maintained by the corporation. This bureau was operated in connection with the *Personnel Club Exchange* and acts as a central clearing house for information concerning personnel. This organization has created a point of contact for the various corporations interested in scientific personnel management.

Industrial Service Bureau. For several years J. L. Tope of Kansas City has been making an intensive study of the economic worth of the various market centers, preparing the material in card form for clients under the name of the Industrial Service Bureau. Recently the material thus filed was compiled in book form for the use of newspaper publishers and the volumes distributed in each market center. This book, entitled *The sellers and the buyers*, analyzes the various markets, and, in addition, contains a business analysis of the local city in which the newspaper is located. The organization confines itself to market analysis, but co-operates with newspapers by offering to prepare, in addition to the analyses, such special letters as the publisher may desire.

Bloomfield's Labor Digest. Turning to another phase of industry, we find in Boston, Meyer and David Bloomfield, who for twenty years have specialized on indus-

trial relations. They have organized a service which includes a publication entitled *Industrial Relations*, containing numerous supplements concerning labor problems. While styled as a service, it is more properly a publication devoted to one particular field, supplemented by charts analyzing plans and methods in connection with industrial relations.

Industrial Information Service, Inc. Boston is also the home of an organization known as the Industrial Information Service, Inc., which was established in November, 1919, and which conducts an extensive service for industrial and mercantile establishments. Its principal publication is a weekly report on various phases of industry. In addition, it has a personal letter service, a consulting service and a department relating to special research. The president of the organization is John Koren; the vice-president is Professor Carroll W. Doten, both well-known in the industrial world.

Tel-U-Where Company of America. The modern ramifications of industry have created a demand for purchasing information and caused the organization in 1920 of the Tel-U-Where Co. of America. Its home office is in Boston, but it is planning to open branch offices in the larger cities of the country. The organization primarily deals with advertised and trade-named goods, and keeps on file in each office a list of local dealers and articles advertised by subscribers. Listing catalogs are mailed to the subscribers from the local office and, in addition, the company furnishes a classified buying service, looking up dealers and manufacturers of any article from shoe strings to real estate. The corporation is headed by Earle G. Knight as President, Wesley E. Monk, Secretary, and J. Harold Drake, Treasurer.

Bureau of Industrial Research was organized at Washington in 1918 to study industrial relations. It was later moved to New York and courses in employment management organized. Its office library and information files are at the service of researchers and librarians.

American Paper and Pulp Association maintains an Information Service which was established in April, 1921. The service distributes to members of the association information concerning conditions in the industry and prepares publicity material for the annual convention. The service is conducted without charge as an association function for members.

National Machine Tool Builders' Association conducts a statistical department for the purpose of supplying members of the association with information concerning market conditions in the industry.

Old Colony Business Information Service, established 1920, is conducted exclusively for members of the Old Colony Club. The service answers questions on commercial and industrial subjects and for this purpose maintains a special section in the *Old Colony Magazine*.

The National Bureau of Economic Research was formed in February, 1920, to conduct impartial investigations in the field of economic, social and industrial science. Dr. Edwin F. Gay is President of the Board of Directors. There are nine other directors at large and directors by appointment from national organizations of importance. The research staff is in charge of W. C. Mitchell.

Whipple Technical Libraries conducted by George Francis Whipple, of Boston, is a co-operative service among technical manufacturers for the purpose of supplying engineering literature.

The Gas Age. The magazine entitled the *Gas Age* has recently established a report service for the purpose of furnishing data to manufacturers who are interested in the gas industry. Special reports have been prepared on various subjects relating to appliances, equipment and special machinery. The service is rendered without charge to manufacturers.

Society of Automotive Engineers. The Society of Automotive Engineers has recently organized a research department. It will not only create a laboratory, but also will work in harmony with other in-

dustrial laboratories and kindred departments.

International Library Service, located at Pittsburgh, maintains a reference library dealing exclusively with labor and industrial matters, with special emphasis upon radical labor propaganda. The supervising director is Edgar B. Spear.

The field of insurance has its own group of information services. The leading organization in which all the fire insurance companies participate is the National Board of Fire Underwriters. The information furnished to members by the National Board includes summaries of fire losses, insurance laws, fraudulent insurance claims and arson. The A. M. Best Co. furnish a report service for insurance companies, including special bulletins and reports, insurance engineering, and technical advice in fire protection. The Underwriters and Credit Bureau has conducted a special service since 1878. This service, while similar to a mercantile agency, specializes on character information and prepares confidential reports for insurance companies.

In concluding the subject of industry the Harvard Bureau of Business Research should be mentioned. Created to aid the business world and to establish standards of accounting and business practice, it has been of great service to the grocery trade, the boot and shoe industry and other trades. Bulletins have been issued at intervals presenting the results of field studies and investigations.

5. Investments

The field of investments has caused the creation of many research bureaus to advise clients regarding the value of securities and in some cases to prognosticate market conditions. The Babson Statistical Organization, the Brookmire Economic Service and the Standard Statistics Co. all maintain departments which analyze the investment market.

Poor's Publishing Company. The demand for information regarding railroad securities caused the creation of an an-

alytical publication containing statistics on railways or tramways and in 1879 Henry V. Poor issued his first volume entitled *Poor's Manual of Railroads*. Thirty years previous, Mr. Poor had become the editor of the *American Railway Journal* and had written copiously on the history of railroads in this country. In 1883 industrial corporations were added to the manual and this feature of the publication became so important that seven years later the data concerning industrials were placed in a separate volume called *Poor's Handbook of Investment Securities*. This latter volume was afterwards discontinued, but was revived in 1910 as a second volume to the *Railroad Manual*. In 1913, the *Public Utilities Manual* was established, making three volumes in the series. Six years later the *Moody Manual* was merged with *Poor's Manual* and the consolidated manual issued by the Poor's Publishing Co.

While this may not be clearly a part of service, I am sketching briefly the history and development of this publication to show the background of the organization. The grandson of the founder is the chairman of the present company and the Poor family have been identified with railroad records for over seventy years.

The daily digest service is a special feature which, with frequent cumulations, keeps track of all corporation news. In addition thereto, daily dividend records, followed by weekly and monthly records, are a part of the service. The organization issues a weekly investment letter and a monthly *Investment Outlook*. The company also prints a volume entitled *Classified Investment Holdings* which gives valuable information concerning the investment holdings of banks, trust companies, insurance companies and other corporations. In addition to the digest sheets, the company publishes weekly *Recent Security Offerings*, tables of defaulted interest and a call bond sheet.

Moody's Investors Service. Wall Street for many years has been familiar with the personality of John Moody. He entered the "Street" in 1890 and became associated

with the banking house of Spencer, Trask & Co. During his connection with the concern, he organized a Statistical Department which then was a novelty in banking circles, but after ten years resigned and started the *Moody Manual*. Five years later the company was reorganized and called the Moody Manual Co., but Mr. Moody had withdrawn from the corporation. Mr. Moody for many years had been making a special study of investment security values and in 1909 worked out a rating system which was presented to the public under the title of *Railway Investments*. From this small beginning which was entirely confined to the leading railroads, there has been developed a series of four rating books which constitute a valuable reference series. Within these books the data are presented in clear-cut fashion, with strong captions, and include the history of a corporation, management, financial accounts and tables relating to bond and stock records. Fifty thousand securities are analyzed and rated and from time to time the rating changed as the investment value changes. The Moody's Investors Service also issues various *Investment Letters* relating to weekly review of financial conditions; new investment issues; bulletin of ratings; reports of earnings; and special analyses of certain corporations. The letters also contain monthly analyses of business conditions and a special report service for subscribers. The publication has the unique feature of being free from advertising, and the organization exists solely to assist investors in problems relating to securities from an absolutely impartial source.

Thomas Gibson. The need for ample and accurate information in the investment world has created a new profession, the stock specialist. Fourteen years ago, Thomas Gibson issued his first *Market Letter* and achieved success through the correctness of the forecasting relating to the decline in security prices. Mr. Gibson now issues a *Daily Letter*; a *Special Letter* on basic conditions; a *Weekly Market Letter* which includes a monthly forecast of con-

ditions. The service is largely devoted to the task of urging the speculator away from the ruinous practice of gambling on the quotations and operating on tips. Mr. Gibson has published several books on this subject which carry the same lines of thought.

The United States Investor. The *United States Investor*, published by the Frank P. Bennett Co., Inc., maintains an investment information service in connection with the magazine. A department, entitled Financial Inquiries, is maintained in each issue of the periodical and, in addition, the corporation permits Chambers of Commerce to make such inquiries as may be desired and also prepares special investigation reports for a nominal fee. The service was established in 1891 under personal supervision of Frank P. Bennett, Jr.

Magazine of Wall Street. The publishers of the well known periodical of that title conduct an investment and business service which has been in existence for ten years. This service was completely revised and improved in January, 1921, and as part of its service issues a weekly circular divided into two sections under the heads of *The Security Market* and *The Business Outlook*. In addition to the weekly bulletins, special letters forecasting important changes in the market are published from time to time. The subscriber to the service is also entitled to free use of the inquiry department maintained by the magazine.

Richard D. Wyckoff Analytical Staff. A more complete service conducted by the editor of the *Magazine of Wall Street*, Richard D. Wyckoff, was established August 2, 1920. Mr. Wyckoff organized an advisory staff who are authorities on money, credit and investment conditions, experts in securities of railroads and public utilities, geologists, engineers and industrial leaders.

Its clients are known as associate members and the consulting service consists of studies of investments held by members, recommendations in regard to securities,

and to members who desire to engage in active trade, a trend letter trading service. In addition, the members receive personal instruction of a confidential nature in regard to their investments and speculations. The membership is limited and the organization serves persons who require fundamental knowledge concerning securities.

Graphic Investment Service. In order to present in a clear manner the stock market changes, a group of men have organized the Graphic Record Corporation, under the leadership of E. M. Zimmerman and G. C. Selden. This organization issues a weekly letter covering economic, financial and investment conditions; a monthly graphic record book showing in graphic form the price fluctuations and volume of sales for certain active stocks; a semi-weekly review of market conditions. In addition, special investment records are made and special opportunity telegrams are issued from time to time. Mr. Selden calls the analysis of security prices "The Stock Market Laboratory."

Financial World Research Bureau. The magazine called *The Financial World* has recently organized a Research Bureau which makes reports on stock securities under a special service bureau in charge of Laurence Beech, an analyst of market values. Mr. Beech is assisted by the members of *The Financial World* staff, and in addition to making special reports on securities upon request, the concern from time to time issues analytical reports on selected active stocks. *The Financial World* also maintains an Investors' Service which furnishes to subscribers a series of publications including a weekly letter on market conditions and various monthly pamphlets such as the *Review of Basic Conditions*, the *Summary of Investment Opportunities* and *Statistical Tables*. As an added feature patrons may make inquiries concerning securities and obtain stock market advice.

American Institute of Finance. A combination of an investment service with an educational course was established at Bos-

ton in November, 1919, under the name of the American Institute of Finance. The organization is headed by James R. Bancroft as president and Byron W. Holt as chairman of the board. Among the staff contributors are Irving Fisher of Yale, Floyd W. Mundy, Prof. Persons of Harvard and other well-known men. The service issues a *Weekly Investment and Speculative Bulletin Service* with advisory privileges and, in addition, an educational course on the "art of scientific investment and speculation." Mr. Bancroft was formerly identified with the Babson Statistical Organization and is a lecturer on investments at Boston University. These texts or lectures are prepared by the staff contributors and cover the field of investments, business cycles, forecasting and economics.

In concluding the subject of investments, one cannot fail to mention the *Commercial and Financial Chronicle* which for eighty years has been the standard financial journal of the country. As a successor of *Hunt's Merchants' Magazine*, established in 1840, it has now reached its one hundred and twelfth volume and its accurate stock quotations are a mine of valuable information. It lacks the cumulative feature which characterizes the publications issued by Poor and Babson, but its *Bankers' Gazette* shows in compact form the weekly market report. The *Commercial and Financial Chronicle* also issues at monthly intervals a banking quotation section and at quarterly intervals special sections relating to electric railways, railroad industrial securities, and state and city bonds. These supplementary volumes summarize the data concerning securities and are a valuable adjunct.

Fitch Publications. Another group of publications are the bond and stock books distributed by the Fitch Publishing Co. These include the *Bond Book* issued annually which gives all details concerning bonds, a supplementary volume issued weekly called the *Bond Revisions*, a monthly supplement divided into two sections, and a monthly earning section. In addi-

tion, there is published a *Bond Record* giving the quotation on all bonds on the New York Stock Exchange and a *Stock Record* on one hundred and seventy-five of the more active issues. In addition, the concern publishes bi-monthly the *Fitch Listings of Investment Banks and Brokers*, a supplementary loose-leaf service covering different parts of the country.

While not strictly a feature of Investment Services, a useful aid in the field of investments is the White & Kemble *Atlases and Digests of Railroad Mortgages*. The maps are so drawn by coloring and characterization that the line of road covered by the mortgage and the character of the lien are clearly shown and, in addition, there is inserted a bond table giving the number of miles covered and a digest of each mortgage with issuance features. Supplemental maps are published from time to time and are leased to subscribers subject to return of the discarded maps.

The firm of A. W. Kimber Co. also issues an atlas of railroad mortgage maps in loose-leaf form and issues supplementary maps correcting data as occasion may determine.

Another form of investment advice is furnished by concerns which prepare stockholders' lists. In 1911 William Jones of New York began selling lists of stockholders and six years later incorporated under the name of William Jones, Auditors, Inc. Another concern which renders a similar service is the Stockholders' Service Corporation, which was established in 1915. The concern also prepares taxation data from the stockholders' lists. The organization has as its president E. Wentworth Prescott and John F. Sherwood as vice-president.

6. Legislation and Taxation

For many years legislation has been a special source of information, but the problem of obtaining this information has been made difficult by the great number of bills introduced in Congress and by the inadequate indexing facilities provided by that body. In addition, the problem of state legislation is rendered more acute by

the fact that in one year forty-three legislatures meet and in the following year one-third of that number. Fifteen thousand laws were placed on the statute books by the state legislatures of the United States during 1919 and forty-five thousand separate bills were introduced. This subject is of great interest to the legislative reference bureaus and the state libraries. While many of us are able to follow with accuracy the proceedings of our own state, we find great difficulty in keeping track of legislation in other states.

One of the earliest projects for compiling bibliographic material on state legislation was begun by the New York State Library in 1891 and for a period of nineteen years that institution published an *Index to Legislation*, a *Review of Legislation* and a *Digest of Governor's Messages*. These were later reissued in a volume called *The Year Book of Legislation*, but the destructive fire at Albany in March, 1911, forced the abandonment of this undertaking.

Several years ago, a joint committee of the associations representing the state libraries, the law libraries and the special libraries was created under the title of Joint Committee on National Legislative Information Service. This committee, under the chairmanship of George S. Godard, State Librarian of Connecticut, has worked valiantly to obtain an adequate index to state legislation. The committee, of which the writer is a member, held frequent conferences in New York with a firm that was undertaking this type of research and for several years a cumulative index to state legislation was compiled and published under the direction of the committee. The task was an expensive one and the concern did not consider it feasible to continue a project which was not a financial success.

Loose Leaf Index to Legislation. There has been recently established by G. Elstner Woodard of the University of Michigan, an index to legislation which attempts to bridge over the period between the *New York State Index to Legislation* and the

present time by the use of a card index to *Statute Law* from the latest compilation of each state to the date of the latest session. This material is listed by subject, with court decisions and valuable magazine references appended thereto. Citations are prepared simultaneously on sheets and also on cards so that the material may be kept in book form by subjects or the cards placed in a catalog.

Law Reporting Company. The Law Reporting Co., organized in 1904, began in 1906 a legislative service to meet the demand for a nation-wide report on state legislation and as a result of the experience of fifteen years this organization is enabled to give a satisfactory service to its clients. The head of the Law Reporting Co. is F. W. Allen, who for many years has been identified with the stenographic reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Under Mr. Allen's leadership the concern has developed a legislative information service which covers the entire country. The system consists of an index card which contains essential facts regarding a bill and its progress through the legislature; a filing folder for vertical file with place for inserting a copy of the bill; report of legislative action on the bills affecting various interests sent out to clients; a card index of legislative procedure and copies of laws as enacted, on loose-leaf sheets. Mr. Allen and the Law Reporting Co. for a number of years have been associated with the joint committee previously noted and the committee fully appreciates the services rendered by Mr. Allen in attempting to perfect a satisfactory index to state legislation.

Congressional Information Service. In 1897 there was organized the Congressional Information Service which maintains a reference bureau on national affairs. It is managed by Claude N. Bennett and has absorbed the Bureau of General Information established in 1886 by Joseph B. Marvin. It operates a law department and research department and keeps its clients informed concerning matters of importance in Washington.

Federal Trade Information Service. The Federal Trade Information Service, under the name of the Bankers' Information Service, was organized in 1913 by experienced journalists in the District of Columbia to furnish important information concerning the Federal Government. Shortly afterwards a second service, known as the Federal Trade Information Service, was established. In 1917 the two services were consolidated and a leased wire secured for use between Washington and New York.

The service consists of an eight-page report telegraphed from Washington, printed in New York and sent daily to clients. A cumulative index is issued fortnightly and again cumulated at quarterly intervals throughout the year. In addition, a special inquiry service by mail or wire upon matters of specific interest is furnished to subscribers. It includes the daily range of government activities, including bills pending in Congress, taxation, special reports, rulings and decisions.

Whaley-Eaton Service. The Whaley-Eaton Service, which conducts an international news organization at Washington, was founded by Henry M. Eaton and P. H. Whaley in 1918. Messrs. Eaton and Whaley were formerly associated with the *Philadelphia Evening Ledger* and employ as their European manager Ben K. Raleigh, also connected with that journal. Mr. Whaley states: "Our object is to perform a distinctly personal service for our patrons in the form of a comprehensive study of tendencies and movements as they relate to the formulation of policies." Their representatives are in close touch with people of importance and thus ascertain the pulse of sentiment. They decline in every way to perform the functions of lobbyists, confining themselves entirely to information. They keep in touch with European affairs, maintain a principal office in Paris and correspondents in all of the important European capitals. They publish a series of letters describing points of interest at Washington, administrative policies and congressional activi-

ties. They also furnish their clients with a series of foreign letters based upon information supplied by their London and Continental bureaus. Much of the data contained therein is of great commercial value. The information concerning European politics is well expressed and informative. The Whaley-Eaton Service is an unusual form of news gathering which is based upon confidence and the highest type of intelligent journalism. The concern does not advertise or solicit, but depends for growth entirely upon the commendation of its patrons.

People's Legislative Service. A new development of publicity is the People's Legislative Service, established at Washington, December, 1920. The organization, headed by Hon. Robert M. LaFollette as chairman, has created a Bureau of Research and Information with divisions devoted to legislation, statistics and publicity. The research work has been placed under the direction of Basil M. Manly, former Director of Research of the U. S. Commission on Industrial Relations. It is stated in the circular of information that "the service is not a lobby—it is a fact service" and it is apparently organized to combat the action of lobbyists and the creation of bad legislation.

The Traffic Law Service Corporation. A consultation service is rendered by this corporation in connection with its publication *The Loose Leaf Traffic Law Service*. Transportation law and problems of rate making are the subjects of this consultation service.

National Bureau of Public Information. An organization, recently formed in Washington, bears the title National Bureau of Public Information and Congressional Index and Service Bureau, Consolidated. This concern is publishing a *Weekly Compendium* and a *Monthly Compendium* and has apparently taken over the compendium publications issued by the United States House of Representatives Document Room by W. Ray Loomis. The mailing of this valuable government document to librarians was discontinued in March, 1921, and

the National Bureau of Public Information promptly canvassed the field for subscribers to a weekly compendium and a monthly compendium. A query regarding the propriety of this procedure was noted in the *Library Journal* for May 15th by Carl B. Roden, librarian of the Chicago Public Library. Correspondence for this bureau is carried on under the name of Myrta B. Goodman, secretary, but the other officers or organizers are not given. The concern in their prospectus offer the compendium publications and a daily legislative supplement card service.

There are several information services which are maintained in connection with the legislatures of the several states. Space will not permit the inclusion of the entire list, but I have selected for comment the service operated in Massachusetts.

Legislative Information Service in Massachusetts is edited by Elliot H. Paul, who is also editor of the *Official Legislative Bulletin*. This service prepares typewritten copies of all bills by a classification system, printed copies of bills when ready, actions of committees, texts of amendments, reports of roll calls and final copies of enacted bills.

There is also a New York service called the Legislative Index Publishing Co.

The complicated government and state taxes have caused the creation of numerous tax services. Men formerly in the employ of the Federal Government, or trained accountants, have formed consulting firms for the purpose of adjusting and preparing tax returns. The Commerce Clearing House, The Corporation Trust Co. and Prentice-Hall, Inc., have elaborate tax departments and, in addition, many of the more important accounting concerns have established special tax departments. The scope of this paper will not permit the enumeration of these organizations, but I will refer to the Massachusetts Tax Service as a typical example. It is a special service confined entirely to one state and is conducted by Frank A. North, Melville N. Johnson and David Greer.

7. Research

Research covers a wide range of activity and I have grouped in this class eleven institutions which conduct research services for a compensation. Considering the projects in the order of organization the first named is the

Searchlight Information Library. Under the device of a torch and "Ask Us" with the motto "Anything you want to know," the Searchlight, organized in 1895, furnishes a wide range of information. It has developed a special library and has collected a vast amount of material suitable for a general type of research work. Founded by Egbert Gilliss Handy in 1895, the Searchlight Library has accumulated an information library of classified knowledge and attempts to cover the entire field of research. It has various departments which conduct industrial, economic and general research; pamphlet and book publishing; development of business histories; and preparation of special reports and manuscripts; also an information library, picture and clipping loan service and a photographic and art department. It makes a specialty of literary work, but also prepares industrial reports and business biographies. The editorial work is under the direction of Francis Trevelyan Miller, well known for his long association with *The Journal of American History*. The service in its scope is akin to the public library and utilizes to a large degree a library of general information. It has developed a large number of book properties, among the most important being the *Photographic History of the Civil War* and the *History of the Great War* in fourteen volumes.

The Business Bourse. One of the first commercial research undertakings was established twelve years ago by J. George Frederick and Park Mathewson as the Business Bourse, Inc. This "clearing house of business information" has been successful in making analytical studies of specific industries. These industrial reports are made at the request of a client and some of these reports which are not

confidential are afterwards placed on sale at a price ranging from fifty dollars upwards. In addition to the industrial reports, the Bourse undertakes merchandising surveys, making exhaustive industrial investigations. The Bourse also prepares local studies and investigations of dealer, jobber or consumer, prepares statistics on commercial subjects and acts as special counsel on sales organization and business finance.

During its twelve years' experience, the Bourse has accumulated a library of facts on a wide range of industries. Mr. Frederick in a letter to the writer states:

"An organization like ours supplements a library in the fact that business men as a rule desire information which is highly up-to-date, and which is highly specific, and of a nature which does not often get into books. We often consult a library in the preparation of our work. . . .

"This institution was founded twelve years ago on the belief that if really practical business people went into an information service it could be made of great value to business men. Heretofore, the only information service, so-called, which had been in existence was in charge of people who knew very little about business and who knew therefore very little how to provide practical information."

Lefax, Inc. Lefax, Inc., of Philadelphia, was founded by John Clinton Parker, a mechanical engineer, in response to the need for engineering facts in loose-leaf form. He had found the needed data buried in books with a vast amount of duplication and in buying new editions he discovered that he was duplicating the information which he had already obtained in a former edition. As a result, he devised loose-leaf sheets which he distributed to engineering friends. He coined the word "Lefax," a combination of "leaf" and "facts," and in 1912, assisted by S. C. Delamater and Bernard Dieckhaus, established a company under the name of the Standard Corporation. Three years later the Lefax company was incorporated and has issued to date 2,500 data sheets. The con-

cern also prepares condensed catalog data, called *Manufacturers' Catalog Sheets*, and one hundred and fifty blank forms for business and engineering purposes. The *Lefax Magazine* was started in 1915 and a year later the organization established its own printing plant. A special department in the magazine is devoted to the interchange of ideas from business and professional interests. It may be interesting to librarians to note that the data are arranged by the Dewey classification, as well as the Lefax classification.

Engineering Societies Library. An outgrowth of a library activity which had passed beyond the realm of library routine and requires a fee to compensate for the labor involved, is the research work undertaken by the Engineering Societies Library. The Service Bureau of the Engineering Societies Library was established by William P. Cutter in 1913, but prior to that time Dr. Charles Warren Hunt, Secretary of the American Society of Civil Engineers, had undertaken bibliographic and other engineering research for members of that society. This work was conducted until the merger of the two societies in 1916 and at the present time is performed as a special function of the library by a special staff. Mr. Craver informs me that last year they handled 3,300 inquiries. This service fills a real need in engineering circles and the clients come from all over the world.

Chemical Catalog Company. The Chemical Catalog Co., F. W. Robinson, president, established in 1915 an information bureau to answer all sorts of questions concerning chemistry. The company issues a *Chemical Engineering Catalog* which is supervised by a committee from the leading chemical societies. This service furnishes information concerning manufacturers and sources of supply in the chemical industry; market information regarding the uses of chemicals; statistics of production; reports on the condition of the chemical industry in any portion of the world; and general information concerning the location, personnel and

products of any branch of industrial chemistry. A useful little book distributed gratis by the corporation, *An analysis*, shows the use of engineering equipment in industries employing chemical processes.

National Research Council. An organization which has the sanction of the National Academy of Sciences cannot fail to merit attention. At the annual meeting of the Academy in April, 1916, a plan was put on foot to organize the scientific resources of educational and research institutions in the interest of national preparedness. This offer, accepted by President Wilson, led to the establishment of the National Research Council.

The purpose of the organization is to bring into co-operation existing governmental, educational, industrial and other research organizations, and the membership of the Council is composed of leading American investigators and engineers. It operates through central committees dealing with various departments of science, selected after consultation with the officers of the national society in the specific field and, in addition, through local committees in universities, colleges and other institutions.

At the outset an ambitious program was outlined and the organization began its work under the most favorable auspices. The officers and chairmen of divisions are affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution, the Carnegie Institution, the American Museum of Natural History, the larger universities of the country and the scientific divisions of the United States Government.

The permanent secretary is Vernon Kellogg, formerly identified with the Food Administration. The head of the Research Information Service is Robert M. Yerkes and the head of the Division of Research Extension is H. E. Howe.

Its work is divided into two groups, one of which has seven divisions devoted to science and technology, and the other six divisions to general relations concerning government, education, foreign affairs and research.

The Council maintains two series of pub-

lications, one called *Bulletins*, the other, *Reprints and Circulars*. Its official organ is the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

It is supported in large degree by a gift of five million dollars from the Carnegie Corporation, part of which is to be devoted to the erection of a suitable building in Washington and the remainder to an endowment. Other gifts have been five hundred thousand dollars from the Rockefeller Foundation and other large amounts from the General Education Board, the Commonwealth Fund and several large corporations.

The Council is organized to encourage and develop American scientific endeavor and it plans to assist in some measure the vast problems of industrial science which depend for their solution on the co-operation of many workers and several laboratories, each striving for a particular end. It is not intended to duplicate work already in existence or to dominate research activities in America. It is also planned to encourage the interest of universities and colleges in research work so that there will always be an output of well trained scientific talent in the country. Its work includes the establishment of special committees for specific scientific subjects; the maintenance of university research fellowships; the publication of valuable scientific papers; the preparation of bibliographies and abstracts of current scientific literature; the development of methods for the collection and distribution of information on current research; the dissemination of knowledge concerning research laboratories; and research personnel. The council is also trying to link the industrial concerns interested in the development of mechanical processes and to urge these concerns to support special libraries or institutes for this purpose.

The Research Information Service, under the direction of Mr. Yerkes, is a clearing-house for scientific information. Its aim is to furnish all sorts of useful knowledge about scientific methods and results, and their practical applications in engi-

neering, industry and education. For this purpose it co-operates with many informational sources, libraries, laboratories, research institutions and individual specialists. It obtains information about research problems, projects, methods, processes and work in progress. It furnishes data concerning laboratories, equipment, apparatus, publications, funds and personnel. It issues bulletins from time to time containing information about research laboratories, funds available for research and bibliographies on scientific subjects. No charge is made for replies to inquiries, but a special fee is required for data needing considerable research.

The sub-committees of the organization also maintain information services, as for example, the Alloys Research Association, maintained by the Committee on Alloys Research which has organized a special information service of its own, including an abstract service, a permanent library, a card encyclopedia and reproduction facilities.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology. During the fall of 1919, the "Technology Plan" which was made a part of the Endowment Fund campaign, was devised and contracts made with a large number of industrial concerns for a special type of research.

This plan in essence proposed an agreement between an industrial organization, called a "contractor," and the institute, whereby the industry was to pay an annual retaining fee to the institute under the following conditions: The material in the library and files was placed at the disposal of the industry and personnel files were to be maintained at the institute which would keep the industry informed regarding available persons for technical positions. Special technical problems requiring extended consultations, investigations or tests, were presented to the institute by the industry and plans made whereby the research could be undertaken to the best advantage within or without the institute. At the present time there are more than two hundred contractors who

have made this agreement with the institute and many industrial enterprises which have extensive industrial facilities are presenting from time to time problems on which the staff and equipment of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are able to render assistance.

Chemists' Club Library. Another organization which furnishes an extension library service to subscribers is the library of the Chemists' Club, which has its reference work in charge of a trained chemist with research experience. For this purpose reports are made upon special topics, abstracts and bibliographies prepared, documents translated from foreign languages and reproductions of any of the material in its collection are supplied. About fifty firms are subscribers to the service.

Answerall Information Bureau. The Answerall Information Bureau of New York, which claims to answer "anything you want to know," co-operates with Lefax of Philadelphia. Information is furnished on any question for the nominal sum of two dollars. The organization is conducted by Joseph Calcaterra as manager.

Nelson Loose Leaf Encyclopedia and Research Service Bureau. When the publishing firm of Thomas Nelson & Sons decided to publish a loose-leaf encyclopedia in 1907, they instituted a research bureau for special information. The field of the bureau covers the entire range of research and the service is open only to purchasers of the encyclopedia. It is a valuable adjunct to this useful series of volumes and the service is rendered without charge as long as the purchaser continues to be a subscriber.

Industrial Survey and Research Service. The Industrial Survey and Research Service of Washington conducts research along a wide range of subjects covering educational, civic, commercial and industrial topics.

The history and personnel of the service is unknown, but I understand that the concern has been in operation about three years and has built up a small organization.

In concluding the subject of Research, I cannot help making a brief reference to the "Sponsors for Knowledge" plan devised by our fellow-librarian, George Winthrop Lee. For many years Eugene F. McPike of Chicago had promulgated the idea of an information clearing house for the entire United States, and inasmuch as the American Library Association has given the "Sponsors for Knowledge" recognition by the appointment of a special committee, it has a natural place in this address.

A careful study of the history and background of these corporations clearly indicates the growth of demand for condensed statistical information, and the success of many of these organizations attests their worth and value to the country.

Third Session

The third session was a business meeting, called to order by President Redstone, Wednesday evening, June 22.

The following Committee on Resolutions was appointed: Demarchus C. Brown, chairman; John P. Dullard; Herbert O. Brigham.

Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: President, John M. Hitt; Vice-President, Mrs. Jessie P. Weber; Secretary-Treasurer, Herbert O. Brigham; Member Executive Committee, Edward H. Redstone.

Fourth Session

The fourth session, called to order Friday, June 24, 2:30 P. M., was a joint session with the American Association of Law Libraries. President Redstone, of the National Association of State Libraries, presided during the first part of the program.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF AMERICAN LEGAL PERIODICALS, by Henry E. Dunnack, librarian, Maine State Library, was read by Marion Brainerd, Maine State Library. Mr. Dunnack's paper was printed in the Proceedings of the American Association of Law Libraries.

Mrs. W. F. Marshall, librarian, Mississippi State Library, read her paper next.*

*This paper was printed in the Proceedings of the National Association of State Libraries.

PUBLIC AND SCHOOL LIBRARIES OF SMALL TOWNS AND CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

BY MRS. W. F. MARSHALL

I realize that my subject is too broad, and presents too many difficulties in its practical accomplishment to admit of exhaustive treatment within the limits of this paper. I shall, therefore, confine myself mainly to the library situation as it obtains at present in my own state, and an attempt to outline the policy which is to be pursued during the next few years in establishing and maintaining public and school libraries of small towns and consolidated schools.

As a native-born Mississippian, and a former teacher in the public schools, I feel that I know more intimately the educational needs of my own state, than of any other commonwealth, and hope that some phases of the situation in Mississippi will be found applicable to other sections of our country.

Mississippi is almost entirely an agricultural state. We are proud of our hill country and fertile valleys, rich prairies and sandy loam delta land which is second to none in the world in the production of cotton. We are proud of our pure Anglo-Saxon blood so little affected by foreign immigration. Taking the advantages into consideration, we have a wonderful field for development in library work in Mississippi. But with all this, we must admit our backwardness in establishing libraries accessible to the mass of children in the public schools of small towns and rural communities.

Our educational forces are now awakening to the necessity of the library as an adjunct to our educational system, and are getting a larger vision of the practical and cultural value of a good library for daily use in every school.

We have all felt the wave of social unrest that has swept over the world. In the midst of this turmoil we as librarians must set ourselves to the task of educating the masses through the public libraries. And nowhere can we find a point of contact so vital as in the consolidated rural school, the county agricultural high school or the town public school.

In the main the small town is made up of country folk who have moved to town to gain better material advantages and also better educational advantages for their children. The library problem for them is much the same as for their country neighbors, with the advantage of centralized effort in favor of the small town community. We wonder why from sixty-five to seventy-five per cent of the rural

population has drifted to the cities. There are many causes contributing to that end; the lure of the job that supplies ready money, and looks so easy at a distance, the craving for human companionship by the isolated country dweller, and the mental thirst to know and understand something of the great world of humanity. The love for good books formed through use of an adequate school library would do much to render the people of these communities happy and content. Knowledge of the varied resources that lie all around them, awaiting development, would impel many to remain, to discover themselves, and the possibilities of their countryside. Every community needs a library not only for information but recreation and inspiration, and who needs this more than the rural communities with their isolated work and long hours of toil?

The great numbers of children passing through the public schools fail to develop resources within themselves to supply the long intervals when mind and body are not occupied with regular work. Observe the crowds at the movies, on the streets, or at amusement parks, with the bored attitude of simply killing time.

Good public and school libraries in cultivating a taste for wholesome reading would go far to remedy this unhappy condition. This reckless waste of time and energy. The school is the place best fitted to develop a desire for good literature, under the guidance of the wise teacher and capable librarian.

Recognizing these conditions as they exist in small town and country communities, our foremost educators, whether college, high school or grade teachers, are giving enthusiastic support to every effort to establish school and public libraries. In the year 1916, Mr. Whitman Davis, the efficient librarian of the Mississippi Agricultural and Mechanical College, made a comprehensive survey entitled "The Library Situation in Mississippi." From this report it was found that the library facilities of the small town and consolidated school were in most instances inadequate for modern educational methods.

Recognizing the great need of libraries, the Mississippi State Teachers' Association of over one thousand members is taking an active interest in library work; the State Library Association is co-operating in every way possible; and parent-teacher associations and women's clubs are giving substantial aid.

The 1921 session of the legislature passed a law giving each county with an assessed valuation of \$18,000,000, the authority to establish and maintain a county

library. The State Board of Education has raised the standard of requirement for entrance to the State Colleges. It has also adopted a fixed minimum standard for libraries in affiliated high schools. No high school can now be affiliated with our state colleges unless it maintains this standard. The result is that a widespread interest has been awakened in library work throughout the state.

Eighty new school libraries have been established in 1920, and the other established libraries are being brought up to the required standard. As to the methods of finance—some libraries in consolidated schools are supported out of the current school fund, some by gifts of individuals, others by donation from the clubs and parent-teacher associations. It makes no difference really what method is employed, if the library itself is an accomplished fact.

A sentiment is rapidly developing, however, in favor of supporting the library from public funds, just as any other equipment of the school is furnished, and of paying a salary to a trained librarian equal at least to the salary of a trained teacher.

If these aims can be accomplished in the near future Mississippi will enter an era of prosperity along educational lines that we have not dared dream could come true. What is true of Mississippi is also true of every other rural community in other states.

With the public and school library as an *ally* of the home and the school, we shall have a sane, useful and happy people.

After the reading of Mrs. Marshall's paper, the meeting was given over to business. A Committee on Conference between State and Law Libraries was appointed: for the N. A. S. L., Demarchus C. Brown, Indiana; Herbert O. Brigham, Rhode Island; John P. Dullard, New Jersey; for the A. A. L. L., George S. Godard, Connecticut; A. J. Small, Iowa; Howard L. Stebbins, Massachusetts.

John P. Dullard, Chairman of Committee on Resolutions of the N. A. S. L. offered the following resolutions:

Whereas, Mr. Elias J. Lien of Minnesota, member and former President of the National Association of State Libraries, has retired from active library duties to devote his energies to work in other fields, therefore be it

Resolved, that we express our appreciation of his splendid services rendered to this Association.

Whereas, The National Association of State Libraries has learned with deep regret that death has removed from our ranks, on March 26, 1921, Dr. Charles McCarthy, pioneer of the legislative reference movement, valiant fighter for the cause of clean politics, exponent of university extension, and leader of men, who at call of country gave of his strength and power which eventually culminated in his death, and

Whereas, Charles McCarthy with his rugged, forceful personality has aided us in our councils and deliberations for many years, therefore be it,

Resolved, that we spread upon our records our profound regret for the loss of our colleague.

Resolved, that the National Association of State Libraries extend to the Massachusetts Library Club heartfelt thanks for its thoughtfulness in bringing the librarians to the historic shores of New England; to the civic organizations of Lynn for their activities in aiding us to visualize the charm of the North Shore; to the management of the New Ocean House for their constant courtesies; to the trustees of the Boston Public Library and the Board of Free Public Library Commissions for their reception and entertainment; to the various institutions and clubs of the city of Boston who opened their doors to us and to the people of Massachusetts for their hospitality in this year devoted to the memory of the Pilgrims.

Frederick C. Hicks, President of the American Association of Law Libraries, presided during the second part of the program.

DEVELOPING STATE LIBRARIES,* by George S. Godard, State Librarian, Connecticut, was read.

Mr. Godard also presented the report of the Joint Committee of the National Legislative Information Service.

The report was accepted and the Committee continued.

HERBERT O. BRIGHAM,
Secretary.

*Printed in Proceedings of National Association of State Libraries.